

DRAFT Egremont Planning Board Minutes

January 5, 2021, 10:00 AM

Call to order: 10:03 AM

Present via Zoom: Jared Kelly (JK) Chair, Mary McGurn (MM), Matthew Bersani (MB), Marjorie Wexler (MW) Associate Member, Stephen Lyle (SL) Clerk Absent Eddie Regendahl (ER).

Citizens in Attendance: Peg McDonough, Egremont ARPA Administrator, planner, David Seligman, Chair of Conservation Commission, Lucinda Vermeulen, Board of Selectmen, Eileen Vining

Form A's: none

Mail: ZBA hearing on Jan 11, Notice from Mass Attorney General approving general bylaws adopted at Egremont's ATM, June 8, 2021.

Minutes: Adopted as amended from 11-17, 12-17, 12-1 All from 2021

Citizens Time: Ms. Wilson of 11 Willoughby Rd spoke regarding the proposed affordable housing units on town-owned land. Her property lies one property over from the proposed site. Her concern was about the possible number of units proposed for the parcel. JK advised Ms. Wilson to direct her concern to the Housing Committee. JK assured Ms. Wilson that it was early in the process, that anything before the PB would involve a public hearing, and asked that she come back to the Planning Board when and if the matter came before the Board.

Updates and discussion:

Discussion on One Stop for Growth and Expressions of Interest (EOI). MM informed members about the One Stop for Growth portal. It is a single application portal and collaborative review process of grant programs that make targeted investments based on a Development Continuum. With one application, municipalities can apply to 12 state grant programs offered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and Mass Development. The EOI is an optional step by which municipalities can receive feedback from state reviewers before submitting a complete grant application. If Egremont chooses to participate in the One Stop for Growth portal, the town can submit up to 5 EOIs before February 4, 2022; after that, the town can only submit 2 EOIs. MM suggested a possible collaboration between the PB and the Housing Committee over an EOI. JK mentioned an EOI

for technical assistance with actionable items arising from the new Comprehensive Plan.

Peg McDonough reported state money available for housing and economic development and additional ARPA funds for Comprehensive Plan action items.

Discussion on Definition of Structure. Steve Goodman was not present, so the discussion was tabled.

Discussion on Choice of Master Plan (Comprehensive Plan) Consultant.

JK expressed a strong preference for Innes/Tighe & Bond due to their ability to work within budget and the participation of the principals. The entire board endorsed JK's preference for the same reasons.

David Seligman (DS), Chair of the Conservation Commission (ConCom), offered that Innes/Tighe & Bond and BRPC were the only ones in the running due to our funding constraints. Of the two, his preference was to hire the former for the Comprehensive Plan and OSRP. However, DS requested the PB to hold off confirming the choice of Innes/Tighe & Bond until he had agreement from the other members of the Commission. DS will bring up the PB's choice at the Commission's next meeting, January 13, 2021

DS voiced his reservation that nine months might be too short for completing the OSRP, as proposed by Innes. JK will contact Emily Innes regarding overall timing.

JK moved that the Planning Board and ConCom jointly select Innes Associates and Tracy Adamski of Tighe and Bond to conduct the Master Plan and the OSRP work, contingent on a confirming vote from the full ConCom at their next meeting. Motion carried 4-0 to send this recommendation to the Select Board.

Discussion of Question Raised by Town Building Inspector Regarding an Interpretation of the ADU Bylaw. JK is waiting on Town Counsel for advice.

Discussion on Public-Facing Town Forms. MM reported that the new Town website offered an opportunity to assess all town forms for their currency and usability. JK will check with the Town Clerk on the number of PB forms preliminary to PB review and possible edits.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan 19, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45